

**Washington State Department of Natural Resources**  
**Aquatic Resources Program**  
**Public Hearing – August 26, 2003**  
**Proposed Land Exchange of the Cowlitz River**

**Loren Stern:**

Welcome and thank you for coming. It is 6:35 on Tuesday, August 26, 2003. Those who haven't signed in on the sheet please do so. This meeting is being taped and if you are interested in a transcript you can either go to our website after the close of business on September 8, 2003, our website is [www.dnr.wa.gov](http://www.dnr.wa.gov); or you may request it, again after September 8, 2003; by calling 360-902-1100. Tonight, DNR staff are here. I am Loren Stern, Division Manager of Aquatic Resources; with me are Gary Cooper and Angie Wirkkala. Tonight we are conducting a public hearing on the proposed land exchange at the mouth of the Cowlitz River; between the DNR, the Longview Booming Company and the Wasser-Winters Company. This meeting is required by state law. Gary Would you present the proposed land transaction. **\*\*background noise\*\*** Since we just presented that to you, we'll just move on. Now we will begin the public hearing portion of the evening. Before we begin I want to ask for your cooperation in observing a few simple rules. If you haven't already and would like to testify, please sign in and indicate that you'd like to testify. Each speaker will be called in order from the sign in sheet. When called, please state your name, any affiliation, and speak clearly into the microphone that we have right here, so I'll be asking you to come up to the front. When everyone that is signed up to speak has done so, I'll make one additional survey to find out if there are any additional comments and then close down the public hearing. So, I'd like to now have the sign up sheet. Is it Brian Perleberg?

**Brian Perleberg:**

Yes.

**Loren Stern:**

Go ahead.

**Brian Perleberg:**

I'll speak loud enough so that I do not have to move. I would like to make a comment this is a very favorable proposition that DNR is embarking with Wasser-Winters Company along with Longview Booming Company. It looks as though they are trying to restore the historic channel, or what is the river and I see this as being a net positive thing for both the environment and the DNR as well as a couple of private companies. I'd like to voice my support of that.

**Loren Stern:**

Thank you for your comments. That concludes the end of those who have signed up to testify, is there anybody else that would like to testify?

**Robert Schaefer:**

Yes, I will. My name is Robert Schaefer and I represent Longview Booming. I first would make the comment that since the proposed Cowlitz River acquisition land exchange, which the department furnished, would be part of this record.

**Loren Stern:**

Yes it will.

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**Robert Schaefer:**

We have gone through, I think quite a lengthy process to try to work it out, I do think it is very beneficial for the state to get this matter finally resolved and we, Longview Booming, are supporting the state.

**Loren Stern:**

Thank you. Is there anyone else that wishes to testify? Hearing that there is no one else that wishes to testify, I am going to close the public hearing. A summary of the testimony will be included in the presentation of this proposal to the Board of Natural Resources at its October 7, 2003 meeting. Written testimony may be sent to the following address:

Department of Natural Resources  
Aquatic Resources Division  
PO Box 47027  
Olympia, WA 98504-7027

That address is included in your packet. Written testimony should be received no later than September 3, 2003. We are concluding our business, so this concludes the public hearing of the proposed land exchange at the mouth of the Cowlitz River number 86-74651 at 6:41 on August 26, 2003. Thank you very much for coming.